McKean, Simon James, 1871 - 1946 (Board of Railway Commissioners) Aug - Sept 1919 (048)

August 27th, 1919

Confidential.

S. J. McLean, Esq.,

Board of Railway Commissioners,

Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. McLean:

There is an application from Mr. E. J. Kohll for any vacancy we may have in the Department of Economics. It is possible that there may be a vacancy. Could you give me some private information regarding him, anything that would be helpful in coming to a decision ? I will of course treat it as confidential.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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S. J. McLEAN, LL.B.
COMMISSIONER

BOARD OF RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS FOR CANADA

OTTAWA

September 2nd, 1919.

(Confidential)

Sir Robert A.Falconer,
President, Toronto University,
TORONTO, Ont.

Dear Sir Robert,-

Yours of August 27th re Dr.McFall is before me. You will have full information as to Dr.McFall's scholastic training, so it is not necessary for me to go into it here.

When Dr.McFall's name was being considered by the Bureau of the Census, Mr. Coats, the Dominion Statistician, asked me for some information about Dr.McFall. While I then did not know him personally I was able to get in touch with Professor C.D.Allin (a graduate of Toronto University) who is Professor in the Political Science Department of the University of Minnesota, where McFall was then working. Allin gave a very satisfactory statement regarding McFall, both from the standpoint of training and ability in instruction.

I have seen McFall from time to time in Ottawa. He has a somewhat nervous manner and a tendency to very rapid speech. In justice to him, I should say that on the various occasions when I have seen him he was rather pressed for time and was trying to condense as much material as he could in a

S. J. McLEAN, L.L.B.
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short space. I think he has good powers of analysis of statistical data.

When he was appointed to work with Coats (who you will remember is a University of Toronto graduate), the idea was to have him work on statistics of inter-provincial trade. He has in this connection been in touch with transportation officials and officials of industrial corporations, and I understand has been pretty successful and obtained their co-operation.

He has more recently been doing work as the "Cost of Living Commissioner." I am not in a position to say what is the real value of the work he has done in this connection.

Yours very truly,

S. J. McLean

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September 6th, 1919

Confidential.

S. J. McLean, Esq.,
Board of Railway Commissioners,
Ottawa.

My dear Mr. McLean:

Many thanks for your letter.
The opinion will be of great service to me.
With kind regards to Mrs.
McLean,

I am, Yours sincerely,

President.